

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 have been cancelled without prejudice, disclaimer, or waiver. Claims 21-40 have been newly added.

Response to 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9-11, 13, 14, and 17-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over the *Ritchie, Jr. et al.* (US 5,790,523) in view of *Dev et al.* (US 5,295,244). Also, claims 3, 6, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over the *Ritchie, Jr. et al.* in view of *Dev et al.*, and further in view of *Franchville et al.* (US 5,295,244). And claims 8 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over the *Ritchie, Jr. et al.* in view of *Dev et al.*, and further in view of *Zimmerman* (US 5,577,067). And lastly, claims 12 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over the *Ritchie, Jr. et al.* in view of *Dev et al.*, and further in view of *Capel et al.* (US 4,340,961).

Applicants respectfully traverse the 35 U.S.C. §103 rejections as applied in the manner mentioned above. However, in order to more clearly set forth the Applicants' invention, claims 1-20 have been cancelled and claims 21-40 have been added. Because of this amendment, the above-listed rejections are deemed to be moot. Applicants reserve the right to file the cancelled claims in a continuation application.

The newly added claims 21-40 include features that are believed to be allowable over the cited references. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner kindly withdraw the previous rejections and consider the references with respect to the newly added claims. Applicants also request that the Examiner allow the pending claims and pass the present application to issue.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that all rejections have been traversed and/or rendered moot and that pending claims 21-40 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date mentioned below.

06-06-05
Date

Mary N. Kilgore
Signature – Mary N. Kilgore